

The labour force

Canada's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate remained at 8.6 per cent in May, unchanged from the April level. The rate in May 1977 was 7.9 per cent.

This May the adjusted employment level reached 10,023,000, up 27,000 from April. Unemployment increased by 14,000 to a total of 949,000 persons.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, employment increased by 17,000 in May for persons aged 15 to 24 years and by 10,000 for those 25 and over. The unemployment level declined by 3,000 for men but increased by 12,000 for women 15 to 24 and by 5,000 for women 25 years of age and over.

Provincial figures

Seasonally-adjusted May unemployment rates for the provinces, with April rates in brackets are: Newfoundland 17.9 per cent (16.3 per cent); Prince Edward Island 10.1 per cent (11.1 per cent); Nova Scotia 10.8 per cent (11.0 per cent); New Brunswick 12.9 per cent (14.0 per cent); Quebec 11.5 per cent (11.2 per cent); Ontario 7.5 per cent (7.4 per cent); Manitoba, 6.7 per cent (6.8 per cent); Saskatchewan 5.3 per cent (5.6 per cent); Alberta 4.4 per cent (4.8 per cent); and British Columbia 8.0 per cent (7.7 per cent).

Without seasonal adjustment, the May labour force was 11,051,000 with 10,118,000 employed and 933,000 unemployed for an unemployment rate of 8.4 per cent. In April, the labour force was 10,750,000 with 9,752,000 employed and 999,000 unemployed for a rate of 9.3 per cent. In May 1977, the labour force had a total of 10,645,000 people, with 9,822,000 employed and 824,000 unemployed for a rate of 7.7 per cent.

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Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.

News briefs

The federal Ministry of State for Urban Affairs and the Saskatchewan Department of Municipal Affairs have agreed to fund a two-year \$1.03-million program to develop regional plans for the areas around Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. Agricultural and residential land use, urban sprawl, municipal finance, community development, transportation, housing, and regional services are to be considered in the program.

Canada's seasonally-adjusted trade surplus for May was \$343 million, an increase over the April figure of \$127 million, reports Statistics Canada.

According to the Anti-Inflation Board food prices rose 4.5 per cent from mid-May to mid-June.

The exhibition baseball game between the Montreal Expos and a Cuban amateur national team scheduled for August has been cancelled because of unresolvable problems, including telecasting decisions by the television networks and a potential conflict with professional commitments by the Expos. However, both parties have agreed that negotiations would take place at a later date for a two- or three-game series at the beginning of the 1979 season.

The Discovery Train — said to be the largest museum on rails in the world — started its five-month journey across the country this July, planning stops of four to seven days in the major cities. The train, which now houses art treasures and objects relating to science and technology, was offered to Canada for less than \$600,000 in 1977 when the United States was about to dismantle the American Freedom Train. A steam locomotive pulls 19 decorated cars and, as the mobile museum leaves each town, a whistle sounds the national anthem and a laser beam projects "northern lights" through a trail of steam and smoke.

Colonel Kent R. Foster of Calgary, Alberta has replaced Colonel Jacques Painchaud of Quebec as commander of the Canadian Airborne Regiment, who was removed from his position for publicly criticizing Defence Minister Barney Danson. Colonel Painchaud, who has been assigned to National Defence Headquarters, was reported to have made derogatory comments concerning possible disbandment of the paratroop regiment.

The Ontario Liquor Control Board, which raised its prices on July 17, now charges \$6.30 for a bottle of Mouton Cadet, compared to the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission price of \$3.80. Other sample comparisons: Heineken beer — Ontario 85 cents, Alberta 65 cents; Seagrams Crown Royal (40 ounces) — Ontario \$18.70, Quebec \$11.90; Calvet Chablis — Ontario \$18.25, Manitoba \$12.80. Not all prices are higher, however. Ontario sells Bouchard Beaune for \$14.32 a bottle, while Quebec charges \$18.65.

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce says in its latest business conditions report that growth in the Canadian economy should pick up from the low first quarter level of 1978. Real growth in gross national product for the year will be 3.9 per cent, reaching 4.2 per cent in 1979, says the bank. Business investment, which has been weak, is expected to show a 2.4 percent increase next year. The bank also predicts inflation to ease in 1979, reflecting possible changes in food price trends, greater stability in the Canadian dollar's exchange value and more modest energy price increases.

Prime Minister Trudeau has asked the Economic Council of Canada to study government regulation of the private sector and to suggest regulatory reforms. The study should be completed by the end of 1980, with an interim report by the end of 1979.

The Rt. Honourable John D. Diefenbaker Centre at the University of Saskatchewan, which will be completed by next summer, will house the Diefenbaker Library, including the papers and memorabilia of the former prime minister, and the university's Institute for Northern Studies. The institute, established in 1960 as a one-man operation, now has a staff of 25. Its activities extend beyond Saskatchewan to the Canadian North, and are related to other circumpolar regions and countries. It operates a field unit called the Arctic Research and Training Centre at Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories, to conduct academic training north of the treeline.

May Lavette, 80, of Vancouver was reunited recently with her 82-year-old sister Ethel Hagglund of Stanford-Le Hope, England, after 71 years of separation. The family moved to Canada in 1907 and Ethel was left with her grandmother until her parents could send for her. They never did.